

NFRB

NEIGHBORS FOR RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

January 4, 2013

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Reply Comments regarding DA 12-1863, IB Docket No. 12-340; RM-11683

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Our organization is involved with jobs and retailers throughout Ohio in an effort to help revive Ohio's economy. As we work with retailers, both large and small, technology is increasingly becoming a major issue in locating and growing a business.

For Ohio, the approval of LightSquared's proposal to permanently relinquish terrestrial use of the "upper 10 MHz" and to share 5 MHz of federal spectrum in the wholesale provision of LTE service nationwide provides several direct benefits: the low-cost provision to Ohio-based companies PowerNet Global (PNG), MetaLINK Technologies and ESCO Technologies of significant wireless broadband infrastructure enabling new business opportunities and better and broader services throughout the state and the country. As PowerNet Global states in its comment, "LightSquared's planned network would allow smaller regional wireless operators like PNG to access a previously intangible network of opportunities. To support LightSquared's efforts is to positively champion a more robust pace for consumers' access to wireless broadband services, actualize nationwide 4G service to rural and underserved areas, as well as foster new entrants in the wireless market allowing new innovative business models to increase consumers' overall access to wireless broadband services." We agree that such service is in the public interest and is critical in facilitating job creation and economic growth throughout the state, and frankly, the country.

Granted, a lot of individuals and business owners utilize GPS devices, I'm frankly weary of the long back-and-forth between LightSquared and the GPS industry about interference issues. If I've read the LightSquared proposal accurately, the company is walking away from that fight as the better sport willing to give up *more* of its licensed spectrum in order to actually gain *less* megahertz by entering into a spectrum sharing agreement with the federal government. As the Technology Policy Institute (TPI) notes in its comments, you state in recent speech that raising massive amounts of private capital is one of the highest hurdles for developing increased broadband policy. Given that LightSquared has already invested over \$4 billion in preparation for network deployment, TPI comments that "LightSquared remains the most immediate prospect for becoming a viable competitor in the mobile broadband space, particularly for underserved areas." This expediency to consumers and the wireless market cannot be ignored as the FCC considers LightSquared's proposal.

Access to affordable wireless broadband is needed now! Please act to move forward with the proceedings that will begin consideration of LightSquared's network deployment.

Sincerely,



Colleen Mann

cc: Senator Sherrod Brown
Senator Rob Portman
Speaker John Boehner
Congressman Bob Latta
Congresswoman Joyce Beatty